

“Cultural Competence and Complexities in Assessment and Engagement: Increasing Knowledge and Improving Practices”

Workshop
9:00a.m. – 4:00p.m.

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Description

Outline of Training: In this training, a cultural framework for all who seek mental health services will be presented increasing knowledge among participants. This framework for systematically addressing individual clinical needs in the context of family and community will be through a formal process to provide assessment and arrive at diagnoses and move to successful cultural engagement. The DSM-IV TR Cultural Formulation, through the lens of its primary national authors and advocates, will be presented to increase knowledge along with clinical vignettes that will enrich its use and improve practice skills. In addition to practical information provided to attendees and practiced by them, there will be additional applied learning exemplified through videotape materials, written clinical descriptions, potential role plays, etc. This workshop is also being held with an understanding of the importance of cultural competence, wellness, resilience, recovery, person-centered care and family-driven services, and other principles of the Mental Health Services Act.

Successful mental health service outcomes are predicated on accurate clinical assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, and engagement and service delivery. Acknowledging culture and diversity in all of its forms has become a clinical mandate. The increased diversity of community members seeking services challenges providers to address cultural complexities at the outset of clinical engagement. This workshop provides essential knowledge and increases skills to integrate cultural issues at the outset and throughout service delivery.

Target Audience: New and experienced child welfare staff, supervisors, and managers; mental health practitioners that work with children in foster care; providers and educators who work with children in foster care.

Goals and Objectives

By the end of the workshop, attendees will increase knowledge and skills by:

- 1) Identifying clinical and ethical reasons (at least 3) for integrating cultural competence into assessment, diagnosis, engagement and treatment;
- 2) Describe the history of a core systematic structure, namely the DSM-IV TR Cultural Formulation for acknowledging cultural diversity in all aspects of mental health assessment, diagnosis and engagement;
- 3) List the five (5) core components of the DSM-IV TR Outline for Cultural Formulation;
- 4) Demonstrate increased group competence through practical application of the Cultural Formulation through clinical vignettes and practice examples;
- 5) Articulate ways in which learning related to the DSM-IV TR Cultural can be structurally continued in ongoing delivery of services.

Transfer of Learning (TOL) Activities: Role-playing to provide direct application and clinical vignettes with clients. Small group discussions will also be included in this training to ensure positive learning outcomes.

Before the Training: Review of DSM-IV TR Cultural Formation including format and structure so that participants have a basic knowledge of cultural dimensions covered.

After the Training: Supervisors to support additional learning by continuously inquiring about cultural inclusion through various means including select documentation reviews, clinical discussions, providing additional resources, articles and materials to further cultural assessment and considerations throughout service delivery and clinical involvement.

(Revised August 2012)